

For Your Information

Weekly

FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF

October 26, 2012

FROM CITY MANAGER STEVE MCKOWN

The Hendry Regional Medical Center Foundation wants to remind you of the upcoming

LIGHTS OF LOVE TREE-LIGHTING CEREMONY

that will be held at the HRMC Foundation house in Clewiston on Tuesday, Dec. 11th at 5:30 p.m.

Purchase your \$5 lights by November 30th to ensure that the person/s you are honoring or memorializing are listed in the holiday program. **Reserve your \$5 light today!** Please send your donation, along with the names of your friends and loved ones to:

**Hendry Regional Medical Center Foundation
544 W. Sugarland Hwy, Clewiston, FL 33440
(863-983-2735)**

2012 Kid's Fall Festival – This Saturday, October 27th from 4:00—8:00 pm

The Clewiston Recreation Department and the Chamber of Commerce have “Teamed Up” to co-sponsor the 2012 Kids Fall Festival. The Festival will be held this Saturday Oct. 27 from 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. at the Sugar Festival Field on the corner of Royal Palm and Osceola Ave. Twenty-three vendors have secured a spot in this year's festival offering to our community everything from pony rides, bounce houses, arts and crafts, food, information booths, sno-cones, cotton candy, a bunch of give-aways and HALLOWEEN CANDY!

There will be a kids costume contest (registration is from 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.), a pet costume contest (registration is from 4:00 - 5:00 p.m.), the Sugar Dolls will perform, WAFC will provide a “remote” broadcasts with 2 of its radio stations, and there will also be a car show that the kids will judge. Don't forget that the ACFC (Active Citizens for Children) will also be hosting a “Haunted Carnival” at the Youth Center from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. So come on out on Saturday night, plenty to see and do. We “DARE” you!

Other Dates to Remember:

October 27, 2012	Fall Festival
November 2, 2012	Lion's Club Sausage Sale-Sykes Park before homecoming game
November 6, 2012	Election Day – Don't forget to vote!
November 10, 2012	2 nd Annual Deputy Brian Haas Memorial Golf Tournament
November 13, 2012	Chamber Business Bash – Clewiston Inn at 5:00 pm

November 15, 2012 Commission Workshop
November 16, 2012 Florida City Gas – Check Presentation 2:00 at Woodwork’s Park
November 19, 2012 Commission Meeting

Veteran’s Day refuse collection schedule: The City will not be offering solid waste collection on Monday November 12, 2012. We will be collecting Monday’s routes on Tuesday, November 13. Thursday’s route will be regular scheduling.

Thanksgiving Day refuse collection schedule: The City will not be offering solid waste collection on Thursday, November 22, Thanksgiving Day. We will be collecting on Friday, November 23, the day after Thanksgiving.

Staff Reports

Community Development Director Reese reports:

- Code Enforcement opened ten (10) new cases – one (1) for overgrowth; two (2) for dangerous structure; two (2) for landscape maintenance; three (3) for property maintenance; and two (2) for illegally parked vehicles.
- Code Enforcement, working with the Fire Marshal and the property owner, was able to relocate a family to a proper dwelling unit after discovering they were living in a shed.
- The Goodwill Industries Sweetwater Apartments project for a seven (7) building, fourteen (14) dwelling unit community is moving forward to permitting. There should be permits issued by the end of the month. This community will be located on West Ventura Avenue.
- The site work permit is being prepared for All Juices & Beverages, located in the Clewiston Commerce Park, and should be issued soon.

Golf Course Director Pena reports:

- The City Championship, last held in 1991, was this past weekend. The two-day event (36 holes) was won by William “Pee Wee” Mergott with a net score of 68-72 (140). We hope to make this an annual event again.
- Hoover Pumping Systems completed their semi-annual inspection of our variable drive irrigation system. We are happy to report that everything was in working order and previous problems with the shaft being ground into an hour-glass shape is not occurring.
- Water is being pumped in, when available, into the golf course ponds and waterways in anticipation of the “dry” season. Our water levels were very low.
- Some winter residents are starting to arrive and more are expected soon. They have been very complimentary of course conditions.
- The Pro Shop physical inventory has been completed and presented to Finance for their fiscal year-end reporting.
- We are tentatively scheduled to meet with a U.S. Sugar representative for a location to place a directional/information sign near US 27.
- See our Calendar of Events for upcoming events and special(s). The 2nd Annual Deputy Brian Haas Memorial Golf Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, November 10th. Registration cost is just \$75 per golfer or \$300 per team. All proceeds go to the Brian Haas Memorial Scholarship Fund. This includes lunch, golf and prizes. Signups are in the Pro Shop.

Police Chief Gutshall reports:

- By now, you all know we had a wooly visitor Sunday night. The bear was standing in front of a Del Monte residence when K-9 Officer Garrett pulled in to do a house check shortly after midnight. The big fellow was tracked and contained by three police officers, two deputies, two GFC officers, and animal control as he ambled up Del Monte, across to Del Rio, east to Martin's Marina, and back across Francisco to Pasadena where he briefly climbed a tree. After a short break, he climbed down and set straight off in a Northwest line for the woods behind Okeechobee. He was last seen on that course leaving the City limits.
- Arrest levels, mostly traffic related or simple assault/battery, continue at a brisk pace.
- We continue the push to get two new Auxiliary members ready to hit the street. Their volunteer work will be critical to us this year.
- K-9 Officer Garrett has done a couple of exhibitions for the elementary schools this week. K-9 Javaier has been a huge hit with the kids.
- Following is a brief synopsis of the week's activity:
 - 995** Commercial / Residential Security Checks
 - 533** Complaints Investigated
 - 19** Criminal Arrests
 - 38** Traffic Citations
 - 40** Red Light Camera Violations
 - 64** Merchant Escorts Provided
 - 11** Alarms Responded To
 - 2** Traffic Accidents Investigated

Public Works Director Scheffler reports:

- The water department and the street department worked together Tuesday and completed the drainage improvement behind the Dixie Fried Chicken on South Francisco Street. Eight feet of pipe was laid and two inlets were built. The finish grade was set and sod ordered.
- The residential front loader that has been down for a couple of weeks went back into service Thursday. A computer module went bad because of some corrosion. We are glad this truck is back in service. Communication with AutoCar has given us some answers to some questions we have had for a while. We will be making some modifications to both trucks in an effort to extend their life expectancy.
- Public Works staff has been working on the Christmas displays this week as we are gearing up to start decorating the first part of November. The electric crew will be checking lamps on poles and building decorations. What if everyone decorated their home with colored lights and turned them on, on the same day?

Recreation Director Ramer reports:

- The Clewiston Explorer Post will be hosting a "Halloween Dance" from 7:00 p.m.-midnight at the John Boy Auditorium on Saturday Oct. 27th the cost is \$5.00 and you must be currently enrolled in Middle School and/or High School and present a valid student ID to participate.

- The Clewiston Diamond Dawgs U-14 travel baseball team will play host to the SF Bulldogs in a double-header on field #7 at the Big Quad on Saturday Oct. 27th at noon and 2:00 p.m. Come out and support the boys!
- All game fields at Sugarland Sports Complex were treated to a 2nd application this week with Sencor and Revolver for emergent weeds.
- All game fields at Sugarland Sports Complex and the Sugar Festival Field were treated for ants with Talstar this week.
- The maintenance and improvements to all the baseball and softball fields at Sugarland Sports Complex are coming along very well. Thank you to every department within the City for use of equipment to make this process more efficient and cost effective.
- “After School Tutoring” for elementary and middle school aged children began this week at the Youth Center from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Please contact Debbie Fouch at Golden Apple Learning Co. at (863) 673-3981 for more information.
- Go to www.clewistonrecreation.com to check us out and get information regarding all your recreational needs.

Utilities Director McCarthy reports:

- Lines and a pad mount transformer have been placed for a new landscape buffering project that U.S. Sugar is installing at the entrance to Harlem.
- We have two groundmen starting their first apprentice lineman class this week in Georgia. This is a three year program where they complete the work during the year and then go for training and assessment; at completion they will be journeymen lineworkers. Billy McDonald is still out after having shoulder surgery and should be back on light duty next week.
- All of the paperwork is complete for the SCANS project, closing will occur on October 30th and the meters will be ordered the first week of November. We will start sending out information to our residents in December.